

# WEED IT AND WEEP

## Missouri weed legalization still pipe dream, but warrants debate

**BRANDON ZENNER**  
News Editor | @brandonzenner

The push to legalize medicinal and recreational cannabis in Missouri is now at an all-time high. With Colorado and Washington leading the charge, a Missouri representative proposed a bill he hopes will help Missouri end prohibition and grow... marijuana.

Rep. Chris Kelly, D-Columbia, filed a bill, House Bill 1659, Jan. 29 that would allow Missouri residents over the age of 21 to keep and transport a pound of pot, a pound of hashish and more than a half-gallon of highly potent hashish oil.

The bill would instill a system of licensed dispensaries, where every county could have one pot dispensary for every 2,500 people, as well as impose a 25 percent tax on sales of cannabis at the wholesale

level.

The proposal is lifted from an initiative petition filed by pro-marijuana organization Show-Me Cannabis, which sent in at least 16 petitions in support of the legalization. The organization's goal is to cut down on the criminal market system and instead regulate marijuana in a way similar to alcohol.

"We're proposing to tax and regulate marijuana like alcohol," said Dan Viets, a Columbia-based criminal attorney and Show-Me Cannabis chairman, to the St. Louis Post Dispatch. "If the polling is not promising, we might not even put it on the ballot."

Kelly said when filing his bill that it still needs work and he intends to add a proposal to voters, according to the Columbia Daily Tribune.

SEE **WEED** | A5

# The Northwest Missourian

Thursday | February 20, 2014

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CODY SIMMONS | NW MISSOURIAN

V89 | N20

## Students encouraged to vote in April 8 City Council election

**MOLLY BRYAN**  
Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

The right to vote embraces the essence of American democracy.

College students are a large demographic of the town of Maryville, making up more than one-third of the town's population. With recent and other upcoming decisions causing outrage among that demographic, there may be no better time for them to voice their opinions than now.

The recent bar age modification has sparked different opinions throughout Northwest's campus. Students and faculty who are opposed to the change may have a light at the end of the tunnel.

"Anything the council does can be reversed by a vote," said Cody Uhing, Student Senate president. "Whatever the council decides to do once they have different members in April is really up to them. I believe they will weigh the pros and cons of repealing

existing ordinances and do what is best for the city."

A simple process will enable students at Northwest to vote.

"I hope that all students are registered to vote in their hometown," said City Councilwoman Renee Riedel. "However, while they are students at Northwest, I believe it is important to transfer their voting rights to Maryville."

Uhing said the responsibility rests on students, if they want to make a change.

"I think it is important for students to vote anywhere they can for any election," Uhing said. "It is an opportunity to have your voice heard. In regard to local elections, it is crucial for students to be involved if they do not like the path the City Council is taking the city. The right to vote is a fundamental right for everyone, and we should take every opportunity to exercise that right"

Students have the ability to decide who fills the open City Council positions.

"There are a number of instances in Maryville's history where students have greatly impacted local elections," Uhing said. "Many forget that we are a large, concentrated constituency that can be mobilized relatively easily. There are three citizens running for two open City Council positions, whichever courts the students the best could pull ahead of the pack."

Riedel suggests students and citizens alike research the candidates to determine which candidate is best for the town of Maryville.

"Get to know the Maryville candidates via newspaper articles, Facebook pages and presence in the community," Riedel said.

City Council positions are not the only issue at hand for the city of Maryville. The issues on the April 8 ballot include the election of two City Council members, School Board members, a half-cent

SEE **VOTE** | A5

### HOW TO VOTE

Go to the County Clerk's Office to transfer your voter registration.

### WHERE

The County Clerk's Office is located in the Nodaway County Administration Building at 403 North Market Street.

### WHY

The next election for City Council is April 8, 2014.

## Missouri colleges among lowest in tuition increases

**LAUREN MCCOY**  
Assistant News Editor | @McCoy014

With the lowest tuition increase in the nation, it is a good time to be a Bearcat.

The College Board's 2013 Trends in College Pricing reported tuition and fees at Missouri's public four-year institutions increased only 5 percent since 2008. This change is less than half of the national average of 14 percent.

On top of this low rate of increase, Missouri students could face continued affordable schooling thanks to Gov. Jay Nixon's call for public four-year universities to freeze tuition for undergraduates. During an address to praise the University of Central Missouri Board of Governors for the decision to freeze tuition for the 2014-2015 school year, Nixon again discussed efforts to make college more affordable.

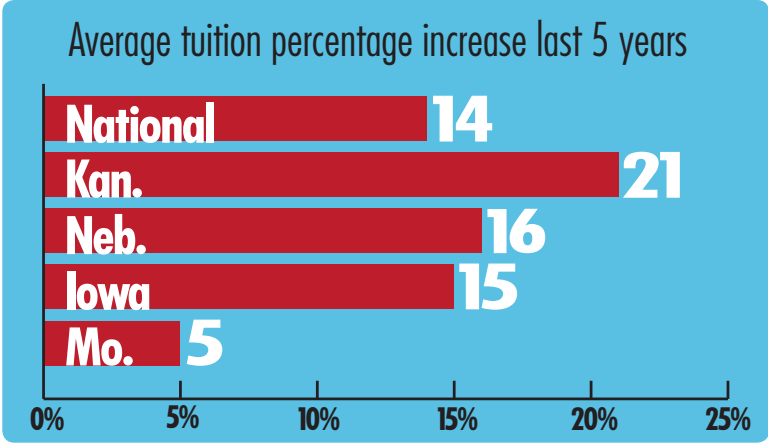
"The evidence is clear; good

schools help create good jobs," Nixon said. "By investing in our universities and freezing tuition, we're going to make sure students graduate from college with the skills to compete for good jobs, not a load of debt."

Tuition freezes are one of two factors that allowed Missouri to keep tuition and fees down; the other is the Higher Education Student Funding Act, passed in 2007, that provides a penalty if tuition increases are greater than changes in the consumer price index.

"In Missouri we are limited," Provost Doug Dunham said. "We can only raise tuition equal to the CPI from the previous year, and over the last several years, that's been very low too, which is another reason our tuition increases have been low."

Student performance also has an indirect impact on prices. While Dunham says there is no direct relationship



between meeting the performance standards as set by the state, there is a connection.

"There's probably an indirect relationship in that if we didn't earn all five, there would be more pressure to increase tuition because of the cost of doing business, so to speak," he said. "Health insurance, utilities, the things that increase on the business side of things... there will be more pressure to pay for that, and if you have less state appropriation, the revenue has to come

from somewhere. Directly, there is no link, but the better we do on performance funding, the less pressure there is on the tuition side."

Northwest strives to provide a more affordable college experience by not only meeting state goals, but providing technology and textbooks for a fee as opposed to students purchasing their own. According to the College Board, this measure alone saves students \$12,000 on average throughout their college career.

## News Brief: City Council forum to take place tonight

Northwest Missouri State University will host a public forum regarding proposed Maryville Municipal Code changes regarding open alcohol containers and nuisance parties between students, Northwest administrators and city administrators this evening.

Those who are going to be in attendance include City Council members, city staff, Northwest Missouri State University leaders and faculty, Student Senate representatives and Maryville Partners in Prevention.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the J.W. Jones Student Union Boardroom.

## Kansas government in debates over homosexual discrimination

**SHANE STEELEY**  
Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

The recent Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender discrimination bill across the state line has caused uproar from some students at Northwest and drawn some national attention as well.

House Bill 2453 would allow restaurants in Kansas to refuse entry and patronage from homosexuals. If passed, the bill would serve as a passage to keep individuals "immune from legal reprisal for refusing service if they have 'sincerely held religious beliefs' opposing customers marriages."

The Kansas House of Representatives voted 72-49 to approve the bill, but Senate Chairman Jeff King announced Tuesday evening that the "legislation was dead" for the time being.

Senior Louis Hageman, president of Common Ground, a University organization that educates about the LGBT community, feels that this kind of a bill could not go very far in Missouri.

"It will be the duty of those in surrounding states to go against some-

thing like this," Hageman said. "There are rights groups here in Missouri that have enough support. That anything like this here would be crushed under foot."

Another major part of Hageman's feelings on the situation is how harmful it is to the concept of our government.

"This law represents a departure from the founding principles of what our nation was built on," Hageman said. "Irrational fear should not dictate policy. Least of all when it infringes on the rights of the citizens."

Thanks to the checks and balances of the Kansas government, the Senate stated the bill was dead on arrival, according to Susan Wagle, Kansas State Senate president, in a statement to the Associated Press.

"I believe the intent of the House was to protect religious liberties. We respect that," Wagle said. "But the business implications are going to harm the practice of employment in Kansas."

The Wichita Independent Business Association, specifically President Tim Witsman, is another group

SEE **KANSAS** | A5



ORLIN WAGNER | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rep. Ray Merrick, R-Stilwell, and the Speaker of the Kansas House of Representatives looks at the vote board during today's session at the Kansas Statehouse in Topeka, Kan., Friday, Feb. 14, 2014. Senate President Susan Wagle said the bill, which was approved Wednesday in the Kansas House, goes beyond protecting religious freedom.



Boys’ offense starting to turn corner late in season

JOEY TUCKER  
Chief Sports Reporter | @joetuck311

It is never too late to begin a run, and head coach Mike Kuwitzky has seen an improvement offensively from his Maryville boys’ basketball team as the regular season nears an end.

The Spoofhounds (5-15) have reached the 50-point mark once in their last five games and just five times all season. Despite experiencing a down year, Kuwitzky’s players continue to play hard, especially offensively, where the ‘Hounds are averaging 45.5 points in their last 10 games, compared to 41.3 points per contest through the first 10 games of the season.

“It has been a really rough, rough season, but people have been stepping up and playing well... and kids off the bench have been played real well,” Kuwitzky said. “We’ve had kids making plays that have been huge for us.

“It’s been a struggle all year scoring points and, gosh darn it, we haven’t shot well and haven’t executed our offense very well. But we’ve had kids stepping up and scoring the ball, which we haven’t had all year.”

In Monday’s 53-42 victory over Cameron, junior guard Hagen Snow led Maryville with 17 points, including four three-pointers, while sophomore forward Chip Dunlap provided 14 points off the bench.

The Spoofhounds round out the season against Bishop LeBlond and Savannah. The results for the Bishop LeBlond game were unavailable for press time.

Savannah handled the ‘Hounds 51-15 in Maryville’s opening tilt of the season, but an ever-improving Spoofhound squad lost a 63-57 battle in the Jan. 24 matchup between the rival schools.



BRIA CREEDEN | NW MISSOURI

Senior guard Ty Hilsabeck drives around a Cameron defender in the Spoofhounds’ 53-42 victory Feb. 17. Maryville closes out its season against Savannah Feb. 21.

Although Kuwitzky would like to gain momentum for districts, improved play on the court is still a big objective moving forward for his team.

“We want to compete, and I’d love to get two wins to round out the year, but it will be two tough games,” Kuwitzky said. “We just want to build

on this season and try to get better. We would love to go into districts on a three-game winning streak. Even if we don’t, we just want to get better and run our offense. Those are huge goals for us.”

Maryville travels to Savannah Friday with varsity tip-off slated for 7:30p.m.

Wrestling sending 5 to state tournament

TYLER BROWN  
Chief Sports Reporter | @Tyman4\_

The Maryville wrestling team will take more people to Columbia for the 2014 state tournament than expected.

Head coach Joe Drake planned to have his 2013 state qualifiers reach the tournament, but he was pleasantly surprised when two freshmen athletes qualified during last week-end’s district tournament—120-pound Cayden Dunbar and 132-pound Matt Twaddle.

The three returning state qualifiers are junior 126-pound Nathaniel Alexander, senior 152-pound Dane Hull and junior heavyweight Brendan Weybrew.

“We were kind of counting on the three that made it last year to get back,” Drake said. “Then after that, we were pretty young, and we didn’t have the strongest record this year, but we were excited two of the freshmen came through.”

Drake pointed to the luck of the draw where his athletes get seeded and the mental aspect of performing on the biggest stage as the two major factors going into the state tournament.

“(How well they do is) entirely up to them,” Drake said. “We think a couple of them are in pretty good shape in terms of the bracket.

“You just can’t make any mistakes at that level because the competition is too good at that level. The biggest challenge is mental. The noise, the crowd, the expectations and the want to be a medalist is all mental.”

While Drake was excited the

freshmen qualified for state, he knew going in that the bracket played in their favor to make it a real possibility.

“After we saw the seeding, we knew they had a chance to sneak in,” Drake said. “They still had to do some things and wrestle really well for them to get there, though. Our expectations were that they had a shot at getting through.”

While the Spoofhounds were dominated in competitions for the majority of the season, they came near to getting three more athletes qualified for the state tournament. Three of Drake’s wrestlers got all the way to the bubble-round portion of the tournament.

Winning the bubble-round guarantees a wrestler will qualify for the state tournament.

Drake said that the team wrestled some of its best performances last weekend, and that was all he could ask for.

“We did what we really wanted to do all season,” Drake said. “We came out at districts and performed really well. All of our kids wrestled to the best of their ability that day. Even some of the boys that did not get through probably wrestled their best match of the season, and that is all we can expect from them.”

The ‘Hounds left Wednesday to head to Columbia after two days of full team practice on Monday and Tuesday. Competition starts today and takes place in Mizzou Arena.

WEIGHT	WRESTLER
120lbs	Cayden Dunbar FR
132lbs	Matt Twaddle FR
126lbs	Nathaniel Alexander JR
152lbs	Dane Hull SR
Heavy Wt.	Brendan Weybrew JR

Girls fall to Nebraska City on road, prepare for district tournament against Lathrop

Maryville girls basketball fell to Nebraska City 65-42 to drop to 6-20 on the season.

Sophomore guard Mollie Holtman led the way with 14 points, and sophomore forward Josie Patton added 13 points in the losing effort against the Pioneers.

Sophomore guard Abby Van de Ven contributed six points.

The Spoofhounds fell to 0-11 on the road with one game remaining until district play against district host team Lathrop Feb. 24.

The ‘Hounds close out their schedule against rival Savannah at home at 6:45 p.m.

In the previous matchup, Maryville fell to Savannah 46-40 on the road.

“(We) got off to a slow start and didn’t make some good looks early...”

Grant Hageman

Remaining Spoofhound Schedule		
District Tournament		
Feb. 24	Cameron v. Plattsburg	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 24	Trenton v. Penney	9:00 p.m.
Feb. 24	Lathrop v. <b>Maryville</b>	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 24	Bishop LeBlond v. Lawson	4:30 p.m.
* All games at Lathrop High School		

ATHLETES of the WEEK

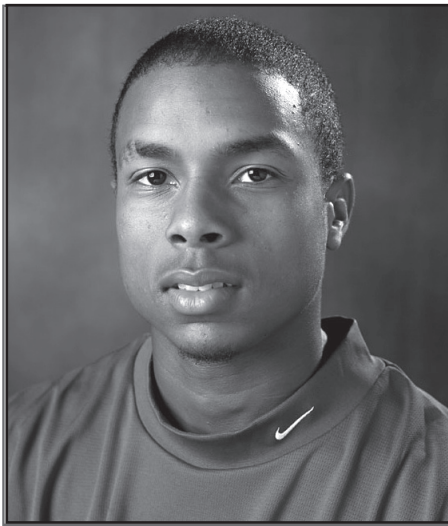


BEARCATS

SPOOFHOUNDS



DeShaun Cooper



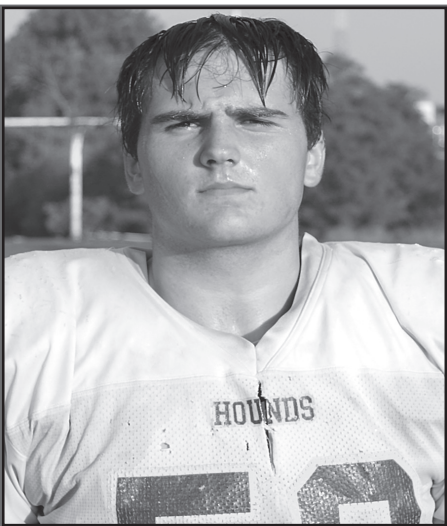
Senior point guard DeShaun Cooper scored a team-high 22 points in an 82-68 Feb. 12 loss at Missouri Southern. The defeat snapped a 10-game Northwest winning streak.

Annie Mathews



Although the Bearcats’ four-game winning streak came to an end at Missouri Southern in overtime, junior forward Annie Mathews recorded a 12 point, 10 rebound double-double.

Brendan Weybrew



Junior heavyweight Brendan Weybrew won his district to qualify for the state wrestling tournament in the heavyweight class. Weybrew also qualified in last year’s tournament.

Dane Hull



Senior Dane Hull won the 152-pound weight class at the district tournament to clinch his spot in the state tournament. Hull is one of five Spoofhounds to qualify.

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CODY SIMMONS | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior No. 1 Lluís Altimires returns a serve at practice in preparation for the spring season start March 1 in St. Cloud, Minn.

# Consistent program opening spring slate

DALTON VITT

Asst. Sports Editor | @DaltonVitt

Both the men’s and women’s tennis teams return for the spring season with high marks from conference coaches.

The women commence their season Saturday with a match against Maryville College in St. Joseph.

Returning just three players from last year’s team, MIAA coaches selected the women to finish fourth this spring.

Seniors Alexis Bartek and Camila Quesada return alongside junior Stephanie Mannix. However, Quesada is shelved for the season following a knee injury that abruptly cut her fall season short.

“Our number one player, Camila Quesada, she’s out with a blown ACL, so she’s rehabbing,” head coach Mark Rosewell said. “But we’re gonna get in there and fight; we’ve got other players.”

Quesada proved to be one of the top player’s for Rosewell on the women’s side, going 18-9 in singles play and 21-6 with Bartek in doubles competition.

Bartek finished 19-9 in singles, including 8-1 against MIAA opponents.

Mannix recorded a 12-12 singles mark in her first year. Rosewell expects Quesada to return next fall.

“It’s a big loss because she’s not only a very good singles player but our best doubles player,” Rosewell said.

While the women hit the road for St. Joseph this weekend, the men get an extra week of preparation before their first meet against St. Cloud State (Minn.) March 1 in Grand Island, Neb.

The men were again picked by the MIAA coaches to win the conference, receiving five of six first-place votes.

However, they also return just three players from last year’s team: senior Lluís Altimires and sophomores Sergio De Vilchez and Alvaro Riveros. Rosewell added 10 freshmen to the roster to accompany the three veterans.

Despite the large volume of inexperienced players, Rosewell believes it could still be a “very strong team.”

Altimires finished last season with a 16-5 individual record, going 3-1 in conference matches.

De Vilchez compiled a 22-6 mark on the year in his first season as a Bearcat.

Riveros tallied a 19-3 singles mark and unscathed 3-0 MIAA singles record.

Altimires and De Vilchez combined for a 26-5 doubles record and were ranked as high as No. 17 in the national rankings.

In order for the freshman to quickly fill vital roles, Rosewell said Altimires needs to step into a crucial leadership role.

“He’s our leader, he’s the co-captain of the team and he’s got his third year of experience,” Rosewell said. “He’s our man ... We’re hoping he can get another MIAA championship and get us back to the national tournament.”

# Freshman provides surprising spark at the plate for softball

JON POMATTO

Missourian Reporter | @NWMSports

The Northwest softball team may have found a new weapon in its arsenal after a surprise performance from one of its new players.

Freshman infielder Chantel Adams led the Bearcats last weekend hitting .526 with three home runs and eight RBIs.

“It shows a freshman jumping on the scene, taking her at bats and running with it,” assistant coach Jay Miller said. “It was really impressive to watch.”

Adams wasted no time hitting her first collegiate home run, drilling her first long ball in only her third game as a Bearcat in her first plate appearance against Harding.

Adams belted her second home run of the contest in her next at-bat in the team’s first win of the season over Harding, 13-5.

Senior third baseman Kristen Uthe helped Adams with one hit in three at bats, adding three RBIs and two runs.

Despite the ‘Cats falling to a 2-4 record, the team is excited and optimistic about how well it performed.

“We came out strong and we were aggressive at the plate, and we stayed with teams and fought back with teams even when we were down,” said Jordan Ereth, senior center fielder.

Ereth tallied two hits and two runs in the win over Harding.

Northwest chalked up its second victory in the following game, defeating Illinois-Springfield 4-1 behind seven innings of one-run soft-

“We stayed with teams and fought back with teams even when we were down.”

Jordan Ereth

ball from junior Abbie Vitosh. The Bearcat ace struck out six hitters and allowed just six hits.

Uthe tacked on two more RBIs and a pair of hits in the second win of the day.

Despite the upstart performance from Adams, Northwest dropped its final two games of the weekend against Quincy and Northwest Oklahoma State.

Miller believes the losses could have been avoided by making plays at the plate with runners on.

“Looking forward, we have to really work on driving in runners that are on base,” Miller said. “We left 54 runners on base, which would have easily kept us in games.”

The Bearcats fell to Quincy after giving up two runs in the top of the ninth.

In the final loss of the day against Northwest Oklahoma State, Vitosh surrendered nine earned runs in just 1.2 innings on the hill.

The Bearcats will look to improve their record at 7 p.m. Friday against Wayne State College in St. Cloud, Minn. at the NSIC/MIAA Crossover Tournament.

# Track continuing to hit provisional marks, improve numbers late in year

DAULTON PERRY

Missourian Reporter | @NWMSports

The Northwest track team competed in the Concordia Indoor Invitational over the weekend and achieved good marks across the board, including two provisional marks by senior Lekiesha McKnight.

McKnight led the Bearcat women’s team with first-time marks in both the weight throw and shot put. She placed fifth in the weight throw, chucking it 54-10.75 meters, and she placed sixth in the shot put with a toss of 47-10.5 meters.

“Lekiesha had a great weekend for us, and that was huge for us,” head coach Scott Lorek said. “We also had several (personal records) out of people and had a great weekend overall.”

Both junior Alexis Boyd in the 400 meters and sophomore Ryan Cox in the 800 meters set personal records. Both Boyd and Cox placed second in their respective races; Boyd with a time of 58.37 seconds, Cox with a time of 1:56.68 seconds. Cox missed the provisional mark by a mere second.

The women had two top-five finishers in the mile run. Sophomore Maci Hicks placed fifth with a time of 5:24.97 seconds, and senior Taylor Woodruff placed third with a time of 5:21.71 seconds. Sophomore Courtney Powell placed third in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 9.33, and senior Samantha Fender placed third in the long jump with a jump of 17-9.5 meters.

The women’s 4x400 team, made up of Audrey Bolinger, Chloe Wichman, Lamisha Mckamey and Powell, placed second with a mark of 4:00.02.

The men’s relay team of junior Eli Smith, freshman Tim Grundmayer, sophomore Cale Korbek and Cox finished second as well with a time of 3:23.84 seconds.

“We had two strong marks in both the men’s and women’s 4x400 meter relays, and that was great to see from them,” Lorek said.

The Northwest track team will head to Lincoln, Neb. this weekend to compete in the Husker Tune-Up. This will be the last meet before the MIAA Indoor Championships the following weekend in Joplin.

“We have to produce great marks this weekend, and it

is almost a last-chance meet for us to get into that qualifying meet,” Lorek said. “And because it is a qualifying meet, the strategy in the running events isn’t useful. Some people won’t be running the same events they have been running, so that will be a big difference.”

The Bearcats will look to finish up the indoor season before switching over to outdoor competition.

“This is going to be a great opportunity for us. It is a great track, and there is going to be a lot of tough competition to compete against. I’m looking forward to it,” Lorek said.

Concordia Invitational Results

Lekiesha McKnight

shot put - 47-10.5 meters

Lekiesha McKnight

weight throw - 54-10.75 meters

Alexis Boyd

400 meters - 58.37 seconds

Maci Hicks

mile - 5:24.97

Taylor Woodruff

mile - 5:21.71

Courtney Powell

60-meter hurdles - 9.33 seconds

Samantha Fender

long jump - 17-9.5 meters

Women’s 4x400 - 4:00.02

Ryan Cox

800 meters - 1:56.68 seconds

Men’s 4x400 - 3:23.84



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior pole vaulter Kemper Kellerstrass perfects his technique in Bearcat Arena Feb. 19. The Bearcats placed one athlete in the pole vault at the Concordia Invite.

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## WOMEN EYEING 1ST ROUND HOME GAME

Olympics do not have the fire power to hold attention



It has been four years since the Americans threw on the red, white and blue to compete for their country in the spectacle known as the Winter Olympics. Athletes worked tirelessly for four years for a chance to travel to Sochi to show the world what they've got. But it just doesn't do it for me.

Let's not get it twisted, I love America. Once it becomes available, I will have a poster of Ricky Stanzi holding an American flag while riding a bear hanging above my bed. These athletes are some of the most physically gifted specimens the world has to offer. There are just things that do not appeal to me when it comes to the Winter Olympics.

1. Curling is the Lady Gaga of the Winter Olympics—It would be awesome if it wasn't for the terrible fans. Prior to the actual start of the games, Twitter blew up with people ecstatic about the grown men and women throwing a thing on ice and doing a thing with some sticks. Everyone knows what curling is, but does anyone know the rules of curling? Is it shuffleboard on ice or cleaning up a mess on ice? The only ice that belongs with shuffleboard is in a drink at a bar.

2. In America, hockey is the fifth most popular sport behind football, basketball, auto racing and baseball. During the Olympics, people wake up at 6 a.m. to watch hockey and are all of sudden hockey experts. You cannot avoid the amazing things T.J. Oshie and that team is doing in Sochi, but do not act like you are Barry Melrose. (And now you think I know hockey because I name-dropped Oshie.)

3. Ice skating is hard, and if you throw dancing into the mix, it sounds crazy hard. With that being said, it is not a sport. Just because something is hard and requires a type of physical assertion does not make it a sport. Rebuilding a car, re-shingling a roof and carrying groceries from the car to house all fall under that category but are not considered sports.

4. Everybody wishes they were cool enough to snowboard, but the hills of the Midwest prevent most people from hitting the slopes. I run into the problem of knowing what is good. I could pay attention during the Winter X-Games and do some extensive Googling to find out what exactly is considered a good run, but I have things to do. Collecting information that is only prevalent once every four years seems like a waste of time when I could be preparing information for the next Avengers movie. That's right—Marvel comes out with a new movie more often than when snowboarding is important.

SEE **OLYMPICS** | A9



FILE PHOTO | NW MISSOURIAN

Junior guard Ashleigh Nelson is an integral part of the Northwest's women's team heading into the final few games of the season because of her valuable experience.

### MIAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

\*AS OF 7 P.M. WEDNESDAY\*

1. Emporia State (23-2, 14-2)
2. Central Missouri (20-3, 14-2)
3. Pittsburg State (19-6, 12-3)
4. Missouri Southern (16-6, 10-5)
5. Washburn (15-8, 10-6)
6. Fort Hays State (16-6, 9-6)
7. Northeastern State (10-12, 7-8)
8. Lindenwood (12-11, 7-9)
9. Northwest (9-13, 6-9)
10. Southwest Baptist (10-12, 5-10)
11. Central Oklahoma (10-13, 5-11)
12. Missouri Western (9-13, 4-11)

13. Nebraska Kearney (8-14, 4-11)
14. Lincoln (4-19, 1-15)

### PLAYOFF SCENARIOS

\*From last night's games

- Northwest win + Northeastern State loss = three-way tie for seventh (Bearcats have tiebreaker)
- Northwest win + Northeastern State win = RiverHawks in seventh, two-way tie for eighth
- Northwest loss = Bearcats remain in ninth

## Veteran women's basketball players leading Bearcats to potential 1st-round matchup

DALTON VITT

Asst. Sports Editor | @DaltonVitt

Ashleigh Nelson and Annie Mathews have been here before.

Actually, the juniors have been in the exact same position every year since they first donned Bearcat uniforms.

Northwest finds itself scrapping for a desirable seed in the MIAA postseason for the third straight season. Multiple years on the proverbial tournament bubble can drive players "a little crazy," as Nelson described it.

Only this time, there's no hoping for certain wins and losses around the league - the Bearcats control their own destiny.

"It's an awesome feeling, but it's also kind

of nerve-racking just knowing that we're right on that edge of either getting there or not getting there," Mathews said. "We all just really want to get back to Kansas City."

Head coach Michael Smith has guided this group in his first year to a ninth-place spot with four games to go as of pregame yesterday. Northwest played Lindenwood last night at home, but results were unavailable as of press time. Check [www.nwmissourinews.com](http://www.nwmissourinews.com) for an update.

Not only are the Bearcats sitting pretty to make the tournament, but they have a fair shot at clinching a first-round home game.

"We're just really looking forward at one game at a time," Nelson said. "But we're really excited ... Having that home-court advantage to get to Kansas City would be huge for us."

The top four finishers in the conference's regular season receive byes to the quarterfinals in Kansas City, while seeds five through eight host seeds nine through 12 on campus sites to make it to Municipal Stadium, where the hierarchy of the MIAA awaits.

"I just laid it out there for our kids - this is what we've got, this is what we're looking at," Smith said. "We're not gonna get a first-round bye, but we have an opportunity to host a first-round game at Bearcat Arena, and we all know what the fans at Northwest like and what they expect."

"We do control our destiny, and I've made sure to let them know that."

SEE **HOME** | A9

## Northwest baseball set for 3rd series of season

JONATHAN BAKER

Missourian Reporter | @NWMSports

With the first two weekends of the season gone, the Northwest baseball team is quickly transitioning to conference play.

Tomorrow marks the first MIAA opponent for the Bearcats as they take on Nebraska-Kearney in a short week.

The 'Cats were scheduled to play on the Lopers' campus in Kearney, Neb. today, but due to the weather forecast, the game was moved to Coffeyville Community College. The series opener is now slated for tomorrow at 3 p.m.

"The biggest thing right now is to keep playing," head coach Darin Loe said. "I would hate to take a weekend off after getting outside; unfortunately, that's not in my hands, but we'll do whatever we can to get (games) in."

Northwest enters tomorrow's game with a 3-3 record after splitting last weekend's four-game series against Cameron (5-5).

Friday concluded with Northwest losing the first game 5-0. The team fought back for a second-game victory, winning 8-4.

Saturday brought much of the

same for both schools. Cameron took the first match of the doubleheader 9-6. The Bearcats used a comeback effort in the second game, tying the game at 4-4, then went on to take the lead in the top of the ninth to close out with the win 5-4.

Saturday's victory could provide a positive turning point that the Bearcats have been looking for heading into MIAA competition.

"We lost all the seven-inning games, but we won all the nine-inning games, so that was good to see. Obviously, we need to start a little quicker," Loe said. "I think that'll come with just seeing more pitches, and our hitters to be able to pressure a little bit earlier."

Northwest's series with Kearney will continue with a doubleheader starting at 1 p.m. Saturday and a single game starting at 1 p.m. Sunday.

After splitting their non-conference slate, the Bearcats are looking forward to the challenges of MIAA play.

"Guys look at our record and see we put up three wins against southern schools," Loe said, "It just helps the mindset."



CODY SIMMONS | NW MISSOURIAN

Senior guard DeShaun Cooper fights through contact on the way to the bucket against Lincoln in a 92-59 victory Feb. 1.

## Men recovering from tough road loss

CHRIS SCHOONOVER

Sports Editor | @schoon54

With three regular-season games remaining on the docket, the Northwest men's basketball team is focused on a one-game-at-a-time approach to avoid being knocked off like it was at Missouri Southern.

On Saturday, the Bearcats will travel to Missouri Western for their

second matchup of the season followed by games against Southwest Baptist and before a de facto MIAA title game against Central Missouri.

"That's a goal that we've had since the beginning of the year—to win the conference," senior forward Dillon Starzl said. "We want to win it outright...we don't want to share it with anybody. Coach (Ben McCollum) said a while ago that he doesn't

remember Northwest has won the title outright."

In recent years, Northwest has had a record of falling late in the year to subpar teams, and McCollum believes taking each game and practice as they come is the way to avoid a late-season slip.

"We don't really concern our-

SEE **RECOVERING** | A9



# Rap legend, political activist Chuck D to speak at Northwest

**BRANDON ZENNER**  
News Editor | @brandonzenner

Legendary rapper Chuck D is not out to be anyone’s enemy when he visits Northwest next week.

Chuck D, co-founder of renowned rap group Public Enemy, will speak to Northwest students Monday, Feb. 24, as part of the SAC Speaks series. He intends to speak about technology, politics, rap and soul music and race in America, according to Emily Doss, Student Activities Council director of lecture programming.

“(We) chose Chuck D to speak because of the diversity he will bring to campus,” Doss said. “Students should be excited about his lecture because he has a good message to get across, and hopefully, it will inspire them when it comes to their personal lives and what they do on a day-to-day basis.”

In 1987, Chuck D redefined rap music and hip-hop culture when Public Enemy released its first album, “Yo! Bum Rush the Show.” The album broke boundaries by describing the realities African Americans faced in the late 20th century. Today,

the group continues to stress the importance of history and self-determination.

“Students should go to this event as an opportunity to learn on issues in America,” Doss said. “I think having him as a speaker and giving his point of views from the music industry will be unique.”

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Chuck D celebrated King’s legacy at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich., by leading students in singing and marching. Chuck D also delivered a keynote about the importance of “knowledge, wisdom and understanding.”

“You are at a critical stage in your life. Don’t dumb yourself down and don’t let popular culture cripple your intellectual quest,” he said, according to an article by M Live.

The artist spoke about the failings of community leadership and the overabundance of social media or “weapon of mass distraction,” as he called it.

“Big Brother shouldn’t be watching you,” Chuck D said. “You have to hold the government responsible and accountable, but if you can’t change your head, you can’t talk about



Chuck D, co-founder and leader of the renowned rap group Public Enemy, will speak Monday about technology, politics, rap and soul music and race in America.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Chuck D**  
**At 7 p.m. Feb. 24**  
**J.W. Jones Student Union**  
**Ballroom**  
**Free and open to the public**

## NEWS BRIEF: Colden Pond Plunge to take place Friday

Taking the ceremonial leap into Colden Pond has become a regular scene. This year will be no different, as the Up ‘til Dawn annual plunge will take place 2 p.m. Friday.

The Up ‘til Dawn organization has been asking for donations Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second floor of the J.W. Jones Student Union for the past few weeks.

All of the proceeds will go toward St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Therefore, the organizations asks that all donations be checks made out directly to the hospital.

Once the donations have been collected, of the 17 who are competing in the campaign, the five who raised the most throughout the campaign will be making the plunge into Colden Pond. With more than \$3,000 collected last year, Up ‘til Dawn received nearly \$1,700 as of Wednesday.

As always, the event is free and open to the public. Also, Maryville Public Safety will be providing hot chocolate for those who are in attendance.

For more information, contact Kylie Niichel, executive director of Northwest’s Up ‘til Dawn chapter, at 8508436@mail.nwmissouri.edu.

## Campus officials plan for future

**LAUREN MCCOY**  
Assst. News Editor | @McCoy014

Northwest leaders are forming a plan and developing goals that may adjust the landscape of the University and affect faculty and students for the next three years.

“We actually started last spring talking about an opportunity to be more cohesive and intentional in our strategic planning,” said Matt Baker, vice president of Student Affairs. “We spent a long time developing a strategy to come up with a strategy.”

Throughout the summer and fall, Baker worked closely with President John Jasinski; Nola Bond, vice president of human resources; and Stacy Carrick, vice president of finance, to create a plan that will assure all areas of the University are on the same path to the same goals.

The University continually collects data, but updates its strategic plan every one to three years. This process helps ensure the University is staying up to date with societal and educational trends and meeting the needs of students on all levels.

“The president formed what he is calling the Extended Leadership Team, which includes representatives from all areas of the University,” Provost Doug Dunham said.

The Extended Leadership Team, consisting of Northwest Leadership Team members, academic deans, the Deans Council and various support staff councils, meet throughout the week to create a draft of the strategic objectives that will be the platform for Northwest’s performance and aims for 2014 to 2017.

While Baker said the team is not ready to release the specific strategic objectives yet, he hopes to release those objectives by the end of the spring semester or beginning of summer. Despite considering new trends, he said the general aims do not change: academic programming, facility services, human and financial resources, the learning environment, what happens after graduation for students and so on.

Dunham said the team conducted an environmental scan to give them “a feel for what was out there in the external world that would impact our decisions strategically.” This scan examined not only the factors that affect students within the University but what they will

face after graduation. Based on this scan and a SWOT – strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats – analysis, the team refined five strategic objectives and will work to develop action plans next.

“We got to kind of a big picture, who do we want to be, and now we have to go through as a leadership team and assign goals to those, and that will drive our next stage of action planning,” Baker said.

Baker said while this process might not directly affect students day-to-day, the results of this strategic planning are there behind the scenes. He used student organizations as an example of a proven way to increase student retention, a major aspect of strategic planning.

“The point of student organizations is whatever the niche is... but it is also to develop leaders to run those organizations to get better,” Baker said. “We look at data every year from our Career Services offices, and employers don’t necessarily come out and want a geography degree, a math degree, but they want critical thinkers, problem-solvers... that’s where student organizations come in.”

“All of our student organizations should align with our mission of developing leaders. All that eventually will tie back to our strategic plan of retention.”

The strategic planning will also work hand in hand with strategic enrollment using tools like Noel-Levitz, a consulting organization for enrollment management.

“Now that we’ve got these strategic objectives, we’ve been simultaneously working on a strategic enrollment plan,” Dunham said. “They’re aligning very nicely, so now the strategic enrollment plan will be a part of this overall strategic plan that we’ve got.”

Dunham believes Northwest is working to provide the tools and environment that best suits future and continuing students.

“We haven’t had a really good planning discussion like this for a while,” Dunham said. “It had a very calibrating effect in terms of getting us all on the same page. These are sometimes difficult discussions because you really have to get to that consensus of what our goals are, but people were very collaborate, very forward thinking...”

I think based on what we’ve been through and what we’ll continue to go through, it not only has enabled us to have some good discussions and a good process, but we’ll have a really good product at the end of it, too.”

# Northwest receives award for recycling

**Efforts by Northwest to make a “green” and sustainable campus land second Missouri Recycling Award**

**SHANE STEELEY**  
Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

While very often one can see plastic bottles and other recyclables thrown thoughtlessly into trash cans, the University has found a way to turn that trash into awards again.

After being the first state university to receive the honor in 2011, Northwest has received the Missouri Recycling Award for a second time due to its extensive and creative recycling program.

The efforts to make Northwest a more sustainable and “green” university did not happen overnight. In July 2012 the school realized there was enough recyclables to justify a full-blown recycling program, according to Sustainability Supervisor John Viau.

“We filled a flatbed truck to the brim with plastics,” Viau said. “The team that does the University’s sidewalks took our trash and sorted it and saw 60 percent of the refuse was recycling.”

Two years later, the University has a 42 percent diversion rate, which, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, means the prevention and reduction of generated waste through source reduction, recycling, reuse or composting. That is 2 percent higher than the original goal, according to Travis Stokes, landscape and sustainability manager, but he does not want to stop there.

“We are looking at how we can have more sustainability....and more efficiency,” Stokes said. “We have turned a trash truck into a recycling truck. We can grab recycling in the town with it as well.”

Several other things were retrofitted to help with the recycling effort on campus. One of the most important was a conveyor used for sorting purposes that was made from an old seed wagon and a used belt. Another way for the University to recycle was to reuse the steel from the old emergency phones to make the two levels of the recycling area. And with only \$2,500 and more recycled materials, they were able to build mobile dumpsters.

Pellet operator Derick Swaney and groundskeepers Steve Bliley and Kurt Davis, along with Viau, accepted the award from Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon during a Feb. 10 ceremony at the capitol in Jefferson City.

These ingenious ideas are what really makes Stokes proud of his team, and he feels this award is something that was due.

“I don’t think our team gets enough credit. They are the ones getting dirty,” Stokes said. “I’m glad they are getting the recognition they deserve.”

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Saturday, February 22	
Music Performance scholarship auditions 9:00 a.m. National Trio Day Student Union 10:00 a.m. Sigma Gamma Epsilon 30th anniversary celebration Garrett Strong 10:00 a.m. Sigma Society Service Week	10:30 a.m. Sigma Society’s Girl Scout Day 6:30 p.m. Tribute to the Ladies Student Union 7:30 p.m. Theater Northwest: “Independence”
Sunday, February 23	
2:00 p.m. Choplin Piano Festival Fine Arts Building 2:00 p.m. Theatre Northwest: “Independence” Ron Houston for the Performing Arts	7:00 p.m. Catholic Mass The Station

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SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

Lined with potholes and patches, Walnut Street is one section of 3.1 miles of Maryville roads that will receive new asphalt over this summer.

# Walnut among streets listed for summer repair

**BRANDON ZENNER**  
News Editor | @brandonzenner

As students begin to roll back into town for school come August, they will notice a significant facelift on the very streets they roam.

In Maryville's 2014 Fiscal Year Budget, the city allocated \$375,000 toward an asphalt overlay project. The project will cover just more than three linear miles of roadwork on major streets, such as South Walnut and Lincoln Street.

According to City Manager Greg McDaniel, Maryville officials usually plan for approximately \$200,000 in asphalt mill and overlay. Last year, that amount was reduced to \$100,000 because of multi-million dollar projects at Depot Street and Munn Avenue. That \$100,000 was used solely for Walnut Street from Lincoln Street to Fourth Street.

McDaniel cited that the city will open bids until March 13 and hopes contractors will take advantage of projects planned by the city and Missouri Department of Transportation.

"When we have these similar projects, we hopefully can get competitive bids so contracts can take advantage of both projects and save on costs," McDaniel said. "We have included alternative streets in case we do get competitive bids; we can jump in and fit what we can in our budget."

Outside of the city's allocated money, Mo-Dot will also do a number of overlays, including Highway 71 Bypass and Main Street from

the Kawasaki entrance to Highway V and overlaying over to Munn Avenue.

C.E. Goodall, public works director, says the city has a rating system to determine which streets are in need and is confident they are making good progress.

"We've got a pretty good list put together," Goodall said. "We could overlay for years. It's big for me to see Walnut finished to give us that complete roadway."

A unique approach the city took last summer was to increase the amount of milling, or grinding off the top layer of asphalt, done on Walnut Street. Unlike other streets where the existing asphalt would be milled down two inches and overlaid two inches, the city decided to mill down four inches, increasing curb height and allowing for proper storm drainage that should reduced deterioration.

"This is one of our most important projects this year, as far as citizens see and appreciate on a day-to-day basis," McDaniel said. "It's one of our most complaint-driven areas. You can certainly feel it when you hit a pothole or a section of deteriorated asphalt. It increases the appearance of functionality of the city."

McDaniel says the city will approve overlay to start beginning June 1, and that projects are expected to be completed within 90 days.

Though there may be some inconveniences from the city's multiple projects that will inhibit streets - Fourth Street Improvement Project, trail expansion and asphalt overlay - Goodall is looking to provide options that will

Streets being overlaid this summer

MARYVUE DRIVE

SUNSET DRIVE

N. LAURA STREET

W. HALSEY (WALNUT TO DUNN)

S. DUNN (COOPER TO EDWARDS)

WALNUT (4TH TO PRATHER)

LISA LANE

7TH STREET (LAURA TO DEPOT)

CIRCLE DRIVE

LINCOLN STREET (MAIN TO WALNUT)

GRANT (200 BLOCK)

S. VINE (700 BLOCK)

Start date: June 1

minimize inconveniences for residents, such as parking areas.

When the projects are completed, Goodall believes the city's roadways will create a better option and environment for Maryville residents.

"At the end of the day, citizens will see a better opportunity to get from one end of town to the other on a nice, smooth roadway," he said.

# Missouri doubles AP students, ranks bottom five nationally in test scores

**MOLLY BRYAN**  
Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

As tuition increases and college acceptance rates decrease, Missouri high school students are adapting to get a head start on earning college credit.

A recent report from the College Board displays that more than twice as many Missouri high school students took Advanced Placement exams in 2013 than in 2003. AP courses are college-level classes offered to high school students. The AP program allows students to develop college skills and potentially earn college credit in different topics and at different levels.

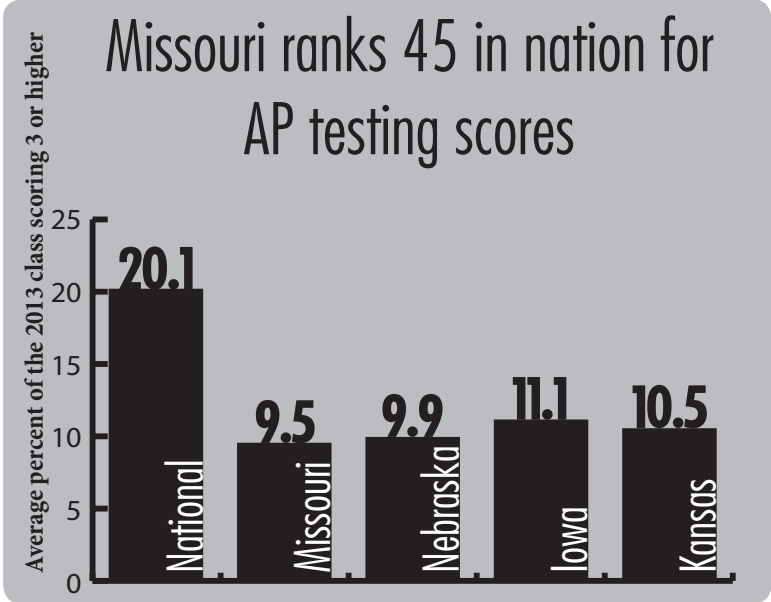
"We have AP Calculus AB and AP English literature and composition," said Becky Houtchens, Maryville High School guidance counselor. "In the past, we've had a few students take other AP tests even though we don't offer the AP courses."

Although Maryville only offers two AP courses, 16 dual credit courses are offered, making it common for high school students to leave with 10-30 college credit hours under their belts, according to Houtchens. Regardless of AP courses or dual credit classes, MHS is doing its part to prepare its students for college.

"We have several other courses that are not designated as AP courses that are taught at the same rigorous level and also help students prepare for college," Houtchens said. "During the 2013-2014 school year, we have 99 dual credit students who are enrolled in 274 dual credit classes."

These dual credit classes are a way to prepare students for their future college experience. Northwest Missouri State's admissions take other features into account while admitting students.

"Honestly, AP scores do not really play a factor in admissions," said Kelsi Franklin, Northwest assistant director of admissions. "Here at



Northwest, the two factors we focus on our ACT score and class rank.

"Where AP classes truly benefit the students is with classes and scheduling, since they are able to forego several of the freshmen classes that their AP test score replaces."

There are benefits for AP courses, as well as dual credit classes. The location of the students' future college may be the deciding factor in which courses are best for them.

"Our students who benefit the most from AP courses, as opposed to dual credit, are those students who look to attend college outside the Midwest region," Houtchens said. "AP credits are traditionally accepted nationwide, where dual credits are more limited."

The state of Missouri made improvements from previous years, doubling the amount of students partaking in AP courses. However, Missouri still ranks toward the bottom nationally from students who score a three or higher.

AP tests are scored on a five-point scale designed to represent the student's capabilities in that subject. A score of one gives a student no recommendation. A two means a student is possibly qualified and a three shows the student as qualified. A four results in a well qualified student, and the highest score of five is extremely well qualified.

In 2013, Missouri came in with 9.5 percent of students who passed courses with a three or higher, placing Missouri ahead of only four other states. The nationwide average of graduates who scored three or above was over 20 percent.

Although the state of Missouri doubled the amount of students taking AP courses, "the increase in students taking the exams and succeeding shows that we're moving the right direction toward preparing our students for college and career," said Sharon Helwig, assistant education commissioner in the Office of College and Career Readiness in an article by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.



CODY SIMMONS | NW MISSOURIAN

Due to the amount of rock salt used to treat winter storms, its cost has nearly tripled. Salt is going for \$165 per ton, compared to \$60 per ton before winter.

# City, University prepared for possible future freezes

**SHANE STEELEY**  
Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

As the days begin to warm up, it is still important to remember winter is still here and can come out of nowhere. Luckily, traveling around will not be as difficult thanks to the rock salt city workers put down on our roads.

With the price of a ton of rock salt raising from \$60 to \$165, some are worried this could lead to possible tax increases, or potentially exhausting the rest of the city's supply.

C.E. Goodall, Maryville Public Works director, states there is nothing to fear due to proper planning by the city.

"We have enough product to handle at least three or four events," Goodall said. "We never know when it's going to snow. We don't take anything for granted."

The price of salt rising is due to the large amount that has been used over the winter, especially in other counties and by the Missouri Department of Transportation, said Goodall.

Tax raises during shortages can be common, but there will be nothing for Maryville citizens to fear.

"We have money budgeted, and I would see that price going down," Goodall said. "Our typical procedure is to replace, but with the price, we are kind of waiting it out."

With the market changing, there is also the possibility of companies being affected by it, too. O'Reilly Auto Parts could see a price increase at their stores for home usage. Corbin Lester, sales associate at O'Reilly, sees more of a problem in the future.

"It's kind of a crazy increase," Lester said. "It could raise the prices. But it would probably affect next year more than this year."

The University is as well-prepared as the city, with enough salt to last the rest of the winter, according to Travis Stokes, landscape and sustainability manager.

"We keep enough to cover four to six snowstorms," Stokes said. "I don't know what the future will hold next year, but we only have one month left of winter."

While the market could possibly have a small shift, luckily, there will still be salt on the roads and taxpayers will not be hit by a new and unexpected tax hike.

## Worship in Maryville

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OUR VIEW

Marijuana legalization no longer laughing matter

Of course, college students would use up space in their newspaper talking about the legalization of marijuana. The stereotype of the naive freshman stoner giving the first presentation of his college career on the benefits of marijuana is always on the mind of the public. For decades, politicians and law enforcement officials have laughed in the face of all trying to upset the status quo of Prohibition. A mere 10 years ago, a proposed marijuana legalization bill in the conservative state of Missouri would be unheard of. Now, it appears the laughter has finally evolved into serious debate.

The bill proposed by Rep. Kelly (D-Columbia) will undoubtedly fail in the House and is unlikely to garner any support in Jefferson City. However, the point is not to set up a fully legalized system in Missouri right now. The point is to get the conversation started about potentially doing it in the near future. Colorado and Washington likely experienced the same gradual process before they legalized it in 2012.

In the story on page one of this week's Missourian, many express doubts about Missouri's readiness to legalize marijuana. In the here and now, that is plainly true. However, problems arise when we continually state year after year that we aren't ready. If we don't even consider the debate, how can we properly and fairly declare the idea of marijuana legalization unfit for Missouri? Rep. Kelly's symbolic move is a step in the right direction for this state and should get the ball rolling in Jefferson City as more and more states move toward legalization.

The economic benefits stemming from legalization are obvious. The state will save millions on marijuana enforcement costs at the judicial level as well as through a reduction in police resources used in marijuana arrests. Taxation of legal marijuana will be especially lucrative for the state, and if Colorado is any example, it could be taxed as high as 35 percent. This money could be used toward a number of areas in need of funding in Missouri. From infrastructure investment to education grants, the possibilities are endless for a state in desperate need for more revenue.

We would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge the obvious hurdles in making the jump to legalization. The state will have to figure out realistic regulations involved in licensing growers and



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rachel Schaefer of Denver smokes marijuana on the official opening night of Club 64, a marijuana-specific social club, where a New Year's Eve party was held, in Denver. Colorado legalized marijuana by a ballot initiative in 2012, and Missouri could do the same in 2016.

marijuana retail businesses. Police will have to figure out a way to adequately test drivers for impairment from marijuana. Colorado and Washington have already devised their own systems in this area and the effectiveness of this testing will continue to improve.

So while Missouri is in no way ready to start opening up pot shops in Kansas City, there is no reason to believe we can't change

with the times in the next few years. State officials, health advocates and consumer advocacy groups should engage in a healthy public discourse and disseminate the various pros and cons that come with legalization. Missouri may not be prepared for this drastic change, but it is becoming clear that the rest of the country is.

CAMPUS TALK

Do you think marijuana legalization be good for the state of Missouri?



"I think it should be legalized because people are already going to do it. Why not just legalize it and take away the trouble?"

**Bridget Phillips**

Special Education



"Yes. Marijuana is something we try to control, but we really can't. It's also not nearly as dangerous as alcohol."

**Nate**

**Quadhammer**

Wildlife Biology



"Yes I do because you can tax it, obviously, make money and get out of debt."

**Chandler Gassman**

Organizational Communication



"I don't think Missouri is ready for it. However, there are economic benefits that warrant serious inquiry."

**Trevor Johnson**

Business Management



"I don't think it's good for the state. There's no way to test how much is in your system regarding impairment, and that has implications for who's on our roads, flying our planes, etc."

**Samantha Brown**

Wellness Center

City Council needs participation from students



**RACHEL MARTIN**  
Maryville City Council Candidate

Since I have announced my candidacy for Maryville City Council, the most common question I have been asked is, "why?" The most important reason is a simple answer: I care. I care about Maryville. I care about the people who live here. I care about the people who will live here in the future. I care about people who do not live here; but travel to Maryville for schooling, shopping, dining, visiting and passing by. Running for City Council is not all about my personal stance or opinion, but more about my willingness to listen and discover.

As a graduate of Northwest, I will admit that it was fairly recent that I realized the importance of the role our community plays in "the college experience." Students choosing to come to NWMSU could go to a number of schools that have the same area

of expertise, number of students or division as we do. They could choose a Division I university. They could choose a school with lower tuition. Why should a high school graduate choose to be a Bearcat? The community of Maryville should continue to be part of that answer. The community and the University need each other to maintain and improve our neighborhoods and economy. Promoting and advancing the teamwork between these two sectors of Maryville is a goal of mine.

As readers of the Northwest Missourian are aware, many changes regarding alcohol consumption are likely to go into effect July 1, 2014. As a City Council candidate, I have made it a priority to read articles, tweets and posts reflecting the opinions of people who live here on this topic especially. Unfortunately, these views are not shared by many of our City Council's incumbents. My number one goal is to shed more light on the interests of the younger Maryville population and give more balance to the council demographic.

The most frustrating part of my

battle to serve and represent this younger generation is the lack of individuals in my age group who vote. In the 2012 election, Maryville only saw 867 voters out of more than 12,000 residents. According to city-data.com, the median age for that population was 22.7 years. Registering to vote is a simple and effective way to voice your opinion. Updating your Facebook status will not change city ordinances, but your vote could. March 12, 2014 is the last day to register in Nodaway County to vote in the April 8 Maryville City Council election. You can even print your voter registration at home and send it in by visiting [www.sos.mo.gov](http://www.sos.mo.gov) from a tablet or computer. It is my job to listen; it is your job to vote.

If you have questions, concerns, ideas or comments on registering to vote, council meeting topics or any issue facing our community, please feel free to email me at [racheemartin@gmail.com](mailto:racheemartin@gmail.com) or check out my Facebook page, Rachael Martin, Maryville City Council Candidate.

Studying abroad presents life-changing opportunity



**JESSICA LUNDQUIST**  
Copy Editor

From the moment we step on campus as freshmen, we're paraded through organizational fairs and multicultural events for Freshman Seminar credit. We're told to fire up our résumés and map out our four-year plans. We're encouraged to make all the friends we can. We're pushed to study abroad.

The phrase is thrown around so often that it almost loses its luster. "Study abroad." At first, it's a sparkling invitation, an exciting possibility. Everyone talks about how they'll spend a year in London or a semester in Australia. Maybe you have it in the back of your mind that you're going to, but then a year slips by – and then two – and suddenly, you're a junior or a senior and there is no more time to plan that adventure.

Freshmen, I'm talking especially to you when I say this because you have the most time ahead of you: don't keep it in the back of your mind.

"If it scares you, it might be a good thing to try," said Seth Godin, a best-selling American author and entrepreneur on all things frightening. Think about it. Our best growth comes from the times we go out on a limb and do something we might actually fail at. For me, one of those times was trying out for tennis my freshman year of high school, never having touched a racquet before in my life. Turns out I wasn't too shabby, working my way up to rival the second position on varsity by my senior year.

Another time was when I left for Buenos Aires, Argentina, last July to study for the fall 2013 semester.

While I can't tell you all the details that made my experience unforgettable in the space of a single column, I will give you three basic reasons studying abroad will change anyone's life as it has changed mine.

First, the most easily recognized reason is that you will discover the world. Wherever you choose to study, you will immerse

yourself in that particular place – adopting traditions, eating unique foods and maybe even learning a language. You'll see the landscape, ride through traffic, watch the news and compare it all to home. If you're as lucky as me, you might even find out that blood sausages taste even worse than they look or get caught in the rain without knowing which bus to take back home. Finding yourself in unanticipated situations and having to make decisions makes you more spontaneous, creative and adaptable, and there are few better ways to find these types of situations than in literally unfamiliar territory.

Second, you discover others. There were a lot of European students studying in Buenos Aires with me, and many of them arrived without a pre-arranged place to stay for the semester. "Eh, I'll figure it out," they said. They applied the same answer when they were leaving the country. "Eh, I'll figure it out." And in the meantime, they enjoyed every second of their time there, even while I worried about arranging for a shuttle to the airport. Meeting people from other cultures highlights every way your own culture breathes through you.

Ultimately, by studying abroad, you discover yourself. I'll admit it's the mother of clichés, but it's arguably the most important part of a study abroad experience. Everyone's journey is different, and the things each person discovers about him or herself are widely variegated. The common thread among them is that everyone's mind is opened to a world they might search the corners of for new knowledge and adventure, and they are never the same again.

If you're interested in learning more about my study abroad experience in Argentina, see my blog at <http://swedeinsuramerica.blogspot.com/>. If you're looking to create a study abroad experience of your own, set up an appointment to talk with Jeaneth Puriel in the Study Abroad Office.

Comcast-Time Warner merger will make product even worse



**THOMAS DRESSLAR**  
Opinion Editor

Well, it looks like this country's cable TV and Internet providers will continue to give their consumers a giant middle finger while raking in record profits. Anyone who has received the dreaded cable bill in the mail knows the anger that arises from dealing with these companies. A merger of the two largest cable companies in the country will continue to fuel this animosity. In fact, Comcast and Time-Warner know their customers despise them. They are consistently ranked in the top 10 of a list of companies with the lowest customer satisfaction. However, there is just one problem: they couldn't care less.

Maryville residents dealing with Suddenlink and other local providers know this situation all too well. Their bills skyrocket every year, but the product stays the same, sometimes even getting worse. This is because of one company's control over the local media market. Consumers would like a better product, but who else is there to go to? Not every apartment complex allows a DirecTV dish, and television and Internet connections have become an essential service in this day in age. The local situation here in Maryville is a nice parallel to what could happen to media consumers all over this country if this merger goes through.

Last Thursday, Comcast Communications announced their intention to merge with Time-Warner Cable, a deal worth an estimated \$45 billion. These two companies are giants in the communications industry, with services ranging from broadband Internet to home security. According to the Washington Post, this merger

would give the combined company 33 million cable TV subscribers, an estimated 30 percent of the entire nation's TV market. They would also exert about as much control over the national broadband Internet market. Now this merger faces a lot of antitrust issues from the Federal Communications Commission and the Federal Trade Commission. However, many analysts believe this partnership will pass through federal regulators due to a buddy-buddy relationship between cable television executives and the Obama administration.

The fact of the matter is that these companies both provide awful service and terrible prices on their own. So imagine the amount of price-gouging and service consolidation that would occur if this merger passes through regulatory agencies. According to CNN, consumers' cable bills double every 10 years, and you can be sure that will continue with this merger. As far as service goes, this merger would denigrate the

already abysmal customer service standard at Time-Warner and Comcast. High-dollar mergers between large companies in other industries, such as the airline industry, have often resulted in a problems arising from merging large customer databases. Anyone who has sat on hold long enough for a company like Comcast probably thought it couldn't get any worse. This merger may ensure that it does, making you pay more for worse service.

It is clear from the success of past media consolidation that this merger will go through unless the consumer stands up against it. If you are tired of paying ridiculous prices for terrible cable television and Internet service, do something about it. Terminate your cable subscription and use Netflix and Hulu. Call your local congressman and voice your concerns. Anything to slow down this corporate power grab of an industry vital to the free exchange of ideas in this country.



WEED

CONTINUED FROM A1

“There is no good evidence to show marijuana is any more dangerous than alcohol or other substances,” Kelly said. “We waste too much money and too many lives because of (marijuana prohibition).”

According to the Marijuana Policy Report, more than 20,000 people were busted for marijuana crimes in Missouri in 2011, with 90 percent of those arrests being solely for possession. With some of the harsher laws in the country regarding marijuana, users can spend up to one year in prison and a pay \$1,000 for a first-time offense of a single joint. With Missouri’s strict laws when it comes to marijuana possession, the jump straight to legalization could end in tragedy.

Keith Wood, Maryville Public Safety Director, stated that the city had no more than 20 cases involving marijuana last year, and he believes the bill would lead to more than personal use.

“I think Colorado is having a lot of questions surrounding their legalization and how to adequately enforce driving while impaired,” Wood said. “When you’re talking about the pound size of weed, you’re talking about more than personal use. You’re talking about seller quantities.”

Research and experts advise that Missouri is not ready to take a dramatic leap and become

the next statistic.

“Missouri is, socially and politically, not ready for something like this,” said Daniel Smith, assistant professor of political science. “While some of our state legislators like to talk libertarianism, that’s actually limited to low taxes and business regulations.”

However, Kelly’s intent is to turn the state’s money away from the drug war to focus on other serious crimes.

“The billions of dollars we’ve spent on the war on drugs has probably not stopped one person from smoking one joint. And it’s ruined the lives of tens of thousands of people,” Kelly said in a Feb. 6 article by the Huffington Post. “Once you’re convicted, you carry that around. You can’t get into school. You can’t get a job. And the question is for what?”

What the statewide legalization would do to a city like Maryville, however, is unsure.

“Would it help the state or local economy? Probably not that much,” Smith said. “But how much demand is there? It’s not that difficult to get, even now. I don’t know that legalization will increase demand by much, and the land that would be used to grow it is largely already in use.”

Junior Joe Frueh grew up around farms and is not sure how much impact such a bill would have on the farming industry.

“I don’t know what the production benefits are. Farmers would have to weigh the pros and

cons to see about making more money than they can in other productions,” Frueh said.

“I don’t think it should be legal. Yes, the taxes can help the state, but I don’t think people can control their intake, like many can’t with alcohol.”

From an economic standpoint, studies have shown the impact legalizing marijuana can have on a state. According to Fox Business, Washington and Colorado will see great amounts of tax dollars for pot sales. Each state charges a 25 percent tax rate on the sale of marijuana, with some municipalities having even higher rates. It is expected that Colorado will bring \$70 million in new taxes from these sales.

Colorado is also making good use of those tax dollars. The initial proceeds are being used for school construction, and Colorado officials are continuing to search for ways to use the extra tax money they are expected to make.

“It’s not something that we have evaluated from an economic development standpoint, and it’s not something that there has been a lot of evaluation on,” said Josh McKim, director of the Nodaway County Economic Development Team.

A 2012 study done by Harvard economist Jeffrey Miron shows that the legalization in Missouri, however, could pose a \$149 million positive swing. The bill could potentially save \$90 million in government expenditures and yield \$59 million in tax revenue annually.

“The savings in Missouri’s state and local government expenditure that would result from marijuana legalization consists of three main components: the reduction in police resources from eliminating marijuana-related arrests; the reduction in prosecutorial and judicial resources from eliminating marijuana-related prosecutions; and the reduction in correctional resources from eliminating marijuana-related incarcerations,” Miron said in his report.

In a single state, that amount could be significant, considering that law enforcement and lost tax revenue costs U.S. taxpayers \$42 billion, according to Jon Gettman, Ph.D.

Though experts believe this is more of an attempt to open discussion than change the culture of Missouri, Maryville and the state of Missouri may very well not be ready for a dramatic change in law just yet. Show-Me Cannabis found that a lower-than-usual voter turnout is expected at the polls this November due to only one office being up for election. The group is planning to wait for a statewide vote until 2016, which will also hold the next presidential election.

When asked about when he believes Missouri will legalize marijuana, Smith simply referred to a picture to establish his view.

“When hell freezes over.”

Water main break forces city to close down Seventh Street



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

A water main break near the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity house on Seventh Street caused the city to shut down the street Monday. Crews worked on the problem most of the day Monday, leaving nearby residents without water and preventing access to campus from Seventh Street and Walnut Street.

VOTE

CONTINUED FROM A1

sales tax question to increase gravel supply for road maintenance, and the Maryville School District expansion of buildings.

Although students may not be concerned with Maryville School District issues, such issues could affect future opportunities. Maryville may be a brief residency for some college students, but it also may be a lifelong address for others.

“Students are an essential demographic of Maryville, Mo. When students graduate, I want them to leave Maryville with love for the community,” Riedel said. “That love will be shared with future students and continue to educate the future student population of what Maryville has to offer. Maryville has so much to offer young adults and growing families.”

Whether Maryville is a temporary home or permanent residence, everyone is a member of the community.

“Ensure your voice is heard next time the council has a vote that impacts your everyday life,” Riedel said.



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Blotter from the Maryville Department of Public Safety

**Jan. 18**  
There is an ongoing investigation of domestic assault at the 600 block of North Buchanan Street.

**Jan. 31**  
An accident occurred between Christopher I. Hinrichs, 26, and Tanya J. Hill, 30, Sheridan, Mo., at the intersection of South Main Street and West Halsey Street. Hinrichs was issued a citation for careless and imprudent driving.

**Feb. 4**  
Renee J. Daniels, 38, was charged with a city code violation at the 300 block of East Third Street.

**Feb. 6**  
There was a smoke investigation at the 600 block of East Seventh Street.

**Feb. 7**  
Ray D. Chambers, 53, was charged with assault at the 2600 block of South Main Street.

An accident occurred between Kyle J. Copeland, 27, and Martha Archer, 66, at the intersection of North Main Street and West Twelfth Street. Copeland was issued a citation for careless and imprudent driving and failure to show proof of insurance.

**Feb. 8**  
An accident occurred between Mikayla M. Stephens, 18, and Hayley E. Wagner, 22, at the intersection of North Buchanan Street and West Seventh Street. Wagner was issued a citation for careless and imprudent driving.

**Feb. 9**  
There was an alarm investigation at the 100 block of South Vine Street.

Dion M. Cash, 54, was charged with driving while revoked at the 1500 block of North Main Street.

An accident occurred between Terri L. Gaa, 44, Leawood, Kan., and Fran-

cis B. Berg, 86 at the intersection of East Edwards Street and South Matthe Street. Gaa was issued a citation for failure to yield.

**Feb. 10**  
Kevin D. Slibowski, 21, was wanted on warrant for failure to pay at the 400 block of North Market Street.

An accident occurred between Leann R. Wilson, 42, Dearborn, Mo., and Maximillian C. Steinke, 17, at the intersection of North Munn Street and College Avenue. Wilson was issued a citation for failure to yield.

An accident occurred between Stormy M. Cogdill, 23, Stanberry, Mo., and Bruce A. Atreicher, Red Oak, Iowa, at the 700 block of College Avenue.

**Feb. 11**  
An accident occurred between Logan D. Kelly, 22, and Edith B. George, 93, at the intersection of East Fifth Street and North Market Street.

**Feb. 12**  
Colby B. Lance, 27, Fillmore, Mo., was charged with failure to register a motor vehicle and failure to maintain financial responsibility at the 100 block of East South Avenue.

Danielle C. Krepps, 25, Wellington, Mo., was charged with open container in a motor vehicle at the 800 block of South Main Street.

Garrett N. Hawk, 22, was charged with a city code violation at the 700 block of North Mulberry Street.

**Feb. 13**  
An accident occurred with Gerald L. Brown, 44, Ravenwood, Mo., at the 1200 block of South Main Street.

Amanda R. Green, 20, was charged with driving while intoxicated, minor in possession, failure to maintain financial responsibility and careless and imprudent driving at the intersection of South Munn Avenue and

West South Avenue.

**Feb. 14**  
Kevin M. Lenoir, 21, Sauk Village, Ill., was charged with no valid driver's license, improper license plate and careless and imprudent driving resulting in an accident at the 700 block of North Mulberry Street.

Andre L. Johnson, Jr., 18, was charged with larceny at the 1600 block of South Main Street.

Russell D. Ernst II, 20, was charged with larceny at the 1600 block of South Main Street.

**Feb. 15**  
There is an ongoing investigation of property damage at the 500 block of West Third Street.

**Feb. 17**  
An accident occurred between an unknown driver and Melanie G. Houchin at the 800 block of South Avenue.



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CROSSWORD

By Peter A Collins

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- Across
- 1 Urban rails  
4 “\_\_ life!”  
9 Self-satisfied  
14 2002 NBA Rookie of the Year \_\_ Gasol  
15 Put back to zero  
16 Total  
17 “... book by \_\_ cover”  
18 Author Jong  
19 Many times  
20 Member of a “joint” military group  
23 “\_\_ evil ...”  
24 Time of one’s life  
25 Pub. of an oft-quoted journal  
28 Franklin invention  
33 Full of mischief  
36 Like much of King’s work  
37 Verbalized sigh  
38 Buddhist shrine  
41 Injured, in a way  
42 Jazzman Jackson and cartoonist Gross  
44 More easygoing  
46 Make a relay race connection  
49 Kalamazoo-to-Cincinnati dir.  
50 Billion-year span  
51 Waits  
55 Cocktail accessory  
59 Traditional Islamic garment  
62 Dough raiser  
63 One of the Khans  
64 Words before “Gave proof through the night”  
65 Clerical residence  
66 Short snooze  
67 Incessantly  
68 Like one’s big brother  
69 Chowd down
- Down
- 1 “Lawrence of Arabia” and others  
2 Bat maker’s tool  
3 “Wake Up, Little \_\_”  
4 Girl Scouts emblem  
5 Protagonist  
6 “Yeah, like that’ll happen!”  
7 Sleuths, briefly

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64						65					66			
67						68					69			

- 8 New York’s \_\_ Island  
9 Hardly G-rated  
10 Win by trumping, in bridge  
11 Que. neighbor  
12 Beehive State native language  
13 Put on  
21 Doesn’t need to be drafted  
22 Bush spokesman Fleischer  
25 One-way sign shape  
26 Wavy pattern  
27 “Doe, \_\_ ...”  
29 APO mail recipients  
30 FDR’s successor  
31 Opposable digit  
32 Start the assignment  
33 Moistens  
34 Inventor Howe  
35 Ballroom dance, in Burgundy  
39 Green veggie  
40 Flight stat.  
43 Wine list presenter  
45 Maine dish  
47 \_\_ polloi  
48 Digestive protein  
52 Rigg who played Mrs. Peel

Answers from Feb. 13

A	H	A	B		B	L	O	G		E	G	A	D	S	
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F	R	I	S	K		S	A	R	I		E	A	S	T	

- 53 Brilliance  
54 Internet calling service  
55 One of 16 in a 4x4 tile: Abbr.  
56 Enthusiasm  
57 Catch, as a fish  
58 Being, to Brutus  
59 Storage receptacle  
60 Colorful card game  
61 Actress Charlotte

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	5							
1		3				8		
			8	2				1
				8				7
		7		3	1	6	8	4
	6				5			
9								3
3			9	4			6	8
6							7	

Level: Intermediate

Answers to Feb. 13

6	2	4	1	3	5	9	8	7
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9	5	3	7	6	8	2	4	1
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WHO'S YOUR VALENTINE?

Student Media Photo Contest

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Winner

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# The Marvel Behind the Masterpieces:

## Professor Jason Offutt uses publishing experiences to better local writers, students

**HALEY VICKERS**  
Features Editor | @Hay\_dayy

To help other people achieve their dreams, you have to be a dreamer yourself. Images, ideas, emotions and sensations run through our minds, composing dreams and goals. But it takes a unique, caring person to help others reach their goals while putting their own aside. We imagine our lives in the future, all grown-up, successful and happy. But we rarely think of the many people who help us conjure up this glorious future in our heads.

Teachers, librarians, peers, they all affect our choices and alter our state of mind about who we want to be and what we can accomplish in reality.

Professor Jason Offutt in the communication and mass media department here at Northwest is making dreams come true.

He is a successful writer and professor. He has published six non-fiction novels, with one coming out this year titled “The Killing.” Along with his novels, he has a weekly humor column that goes into four different newspapers around the area; he writes three paranormal related articles for a website called “mysterious universe” each month, many online articles and a comical blog he has recently created called “An American Offutt in London.”

Not only does Offutt teach reporting, professional media writing, photojournalism and several other classes in Wells Hall, last semester he taught one class at Northwest Technical School. During this time, Offutt worked with adults who have already completed their degrees, teaching a class called Writing for Publication. The class covered a wide variety of things, from simple

grammar usage in professional writing to where to go to actually publish your finished work.

“There was a class I thought local writers could benefit from,” Offutt said. “Because I have had a number of books published, and I figured there were quite a few people in the community who wanted to write. And I was wanting to help them achieve that.”

The first couple of classes were focused on the basics, such as narrative writing, and from there the classes grew tougher. The students put together stories, both fiction and non-fiction. They went into plotting, revision and the last couple of classes focused more on markets to send their stories to get published.

Offutt commented, “A few of the students had told me that a lot of the things I had talked about, how to write, how to structure a story, how to get out of bad habits, how to get into good habits, helped them a lot.”

A student from the technical school, Gene Cease, has published a novel since taking Offutt’s class at the technical school.

His published book is titled “Medium Rare,” and is an adventurous story about a man who experienced death firsthand. Cease is on the clock to publish his second novel by the end of February or beginning of March. His new novel is a fiction tale focusing on journalism called “Papercut.”

“His class was very enjoyable,” Cease said. “His style was very relaxed...very instrumental. He just gave all of us so much confidence. There was not one person that he turned to and said, ‘You don’t have what it takes.’ He had so much information. We all left the class feeling like, ‘wow,’ very empowered.”

Offutt is very proud of his students who have published work and encourages all of his students to share

their successes with him.

“It was great,” Offutt said. “It was fantastic! That was the point of the class for me to work with them and they could see their dream come true and their work to be published.”

Offutt encourages his students to write every day to avoid writer’s block and bad habits that he makes apparent in all of the classes he teaches. He pushes his students to go above and beyond the average writer and get students involved in the writing process.

“Offutt is really experienced professor,” freshman Jacob Wood said. “He’s done everything from editing to reporting, so he can give us a lot of insight on what to do in the career field. He has a lot of great stories that he shares in class, and he keeps us all engaged. He’s given us tips on how to make things better as far as writing in the AP Style Guide and given us ways to fix things to make us sound better.”

“He has so much expertise,” Cease said. “He broke the class down into segments; he had a lot of things that authors should consider.”

Offutt has lots of advice for students wishing to someday have published works. He tells his students to never stop writing and just do what they love.

“Don’t think you’re as good as you’re going to get,” Offutt advises his published students. “Keep focusing on the basics of writing. Because that was my problem. When I was in college, I got two pieces published and I thought, ‘this was great,’ and I didn’t focus on getting better, and I didn’t get anything published for a few years...I had to keep working on my writing skills to get better.”



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

Professor Jason Offutt sits at his desk while presenting two of his many published works. He taught at Northwest Technical School last semester, helping students to achieve their dreams of publishing their creations.

### Gene Cease

“Jason reassured us all that rejection is just part of what happens. I honestly believe that I still wouldn’t have anything written if I didn’t take that class. He told me that he has a drawer where he keeps all of his rejection letters from his work...I can’t stress enough how much confidence he gave us.”



MZ-CELLANEIOUS.BLOGSPOT.COM

Maryville resident and business owner Gene Cease took professor Offutt’s class at Northwest Technical School. He is now working on his second novel, soon to be published this year.



# ‘Winter Tale’ not so winter wonderland

VINCENT CONA  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Winter is a time for showing love, compassion and, of course, love. But in the newly released film, “Winter’s Tale,” there is little to look forward to if you’re expecting a winter wonderland.

This is supernatural-drama film about the romance between a burglar and a terminally ill woman. The storyline is based off the novel by Mark Helprin. While the novel was critically acclaimed, this film adaptation does it no justice.

The main character, Peter Lake, played by Colin Farrell, is a thief who

breaks into a home and falls in love with the tuberculosis-stricken homeowner, Beverly Penn, played by Jessica Brown Findlay. A gangster, Pearly Soames, played by Russell Crowe, is after Lake for botching a robbery, forcing Lake to flee with Penn aided by his guardian angel, Athansor, a mystical horse.

The story has some interesting concepts, such as it’s transition from the 20th century to the modern day, but is ultimately shallow. It does not feel like a supernatural movie throughout. But when the film takes a unrealistic turn, it is somewhat confusing. It pulls it out of nowhere when convenient, and does not fully explain

everything in context. It presents itself in a different way, but the effect is lost. It is missing that certain spark that would really make this movie jump up and be something great.

Contrasting the story, the acting and effects are spectacular. Farrell and Findlay have great chemistry in the movie, playing the roles of an odd couple wonderfully. Crowe is no slouch either, as his character is brought to life by the type of vigor he brings to his roles.

The effects, such as Athansor’s flight are beautiful and eye-catching. One can tell a lot of work went into the effects, as they are more artistic and serve to set the tone of the film.

Despite being visually beautiful and having a great list of actors to portray its story, “Winter’s Tale” does not live up to expectations. The story was buried by the approach it tried to take and the way it did not give a context for all the magical occurrences throughout.



Rating: 2/5  
Director: Akiva Goldsman  
Starring: Colin Farrell, Jessica Brown Findlay  
Release Date: Feb. 14, 2014

# ‘About Last Night’ remake rocks second time around

TREYNECIA DEVINE  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

If you spent Valentine’s Day alone, and you’re looking for some love, “About Last Night,” starring Kevin Hart, might just be the answer to all your romantic prayers. This film is a romantic comedy remake that is sure to make anyone, single or taken, laugh.

This movie is a classic remake of the original that was produced in 1986. The stars in the first film include Rob Lowe, Demi Moore and James Belushi, just to name a few. This be-loved story is retold once more with a new, fresh feel that modern teenagers will be sure to love.

In the new remake Hart and co-star Regina Hall from “Scary Movie,” deliver a dramatic aspect on a dysfunctional relationship strictly full of sex and late night meetings with no public appearances.

Meanwhile, Michael Ealy, who starred in “Barbershop,” and Joy Bryant, featured in “Antwone Fisher,” portray a perfect relationship that everyone craves with an equal balance of sex, comfortability and communication. This, of course, leads to them promptly moving in together and enjoying every bit of each other.

Bryant’s character convinces her boyfriend to pursue his dreams and do what makes him happy, which sparks the beginning of the test and trial of their relationship. As these couples advance from the bar to the bedroom and through their lives, they are put to the ultimate test of patience, trust and shocker here: love.

Hall’s character longs for an official relationship rather than occasional flings with her lover, while Ealy’s character battles a life crisis, an ex-girlfriend and a relationship he’s not too sure of.

“About Last Night” is funny, sexy and realistic. The Hart-Hall and Ealy-Bryant chemistry is remarkable and should be seen again and again. Its witty dialogue and quick comebacks keep the audience engaged the whole time. “About Last Night” will definitely be one added to my collection.



Rating: 5/5  
Starring: Kevin Hart, Regina Hall  
Release Date: Feb. 14, 2014



WWW.GRANTLAND.COM

# Eric Church’s ‘The Outsiders’ portrays contemporary country sound we crave

SAMI KRETZER  
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Eric Church’s new album “The Outsiders” shows his old-time country sound but amps up the vibe with a new modern twang. Church is proving he is not a force to be reckoned with in the country music industry.

Church took a successful edgy approach in a different direction with this album. He pushed past the stereotypical norm that country music has been notorious for and danced on the verge of a rock atmosphere.

Church has been no stranger to fame since the summer of 2006 when he released his debut album, “Sinners Like Me.”

His second album, “Carolina,” (2009) was the first time he made it onto Top 10 Hits with, “Love Your Love the Most” and “Hell on the Heart.”

The recognition kept rolling with his third album, “Chief.” Third time’s a charm proved right when this album became his first No. 1. On that No. 1 album there were two No. 1 singles, “Drink in My Hand” and “Springsteen.”

The album features “Give Me Back My Hometown” which, without a doubt, will be seeing some type of recognition for its lyrical glory in the near future.

Church reveals his aggressive side with songs like “The Outsiders” and “Dark Side.” He gets down to the nitty-gritty and proves to be rough around the edges.

The title track begins with “They’re the in crowd, we’re the other ones/It’s a different kind of cloth that we’re cut from.”

Church’s first line is a direct representation of the direction that he wanted to take this fourth album in. This album is definitely cut from a different cloth than most contemporary country music.

The nostalgia sets in, and you can’t help but sing along to “Give Me Back My Hometown.” It’s the type of song that makes you miss how things used to be. Almost everyone can relate to the feeling that Church paints with his lyrics.

These days, it seems as if contemporary music artists feel the need to add a hip-hop-like feel to their art. Frankly, it’s cheesy and monotonous. Change, which Church provides on his new album, is only good to an extent.

Church takes a risky step out of the norms of country music, but unlike the unsuccessful “hick-hop” wannabes, he brings a refreshing change of pace with his rigid aura. No doubt, I see impressive chart-topping hits within this album in the near future.



Rating: 4/5  
Artist: Eric Church  
Album: The Outsiders  
Release Date: Feb. 11, 2014

# World War III: Nicki Minaj vs. Mariah Carey

HALEY VICKERS  
Features Editor | @Hay\_dayy

We all have the one enemy, the person you just can’t beat. They have everything. They always get better grades than you, they have better friends, and to make matters worse, they are too damn attractive to even compete with. And some girls just can’t accept the fact that they have lost.

Nicki Minaj and Mariah Carey are a prime example of these two catty, immature, “hold my earrings” girls. Their on-going battle with one another started when both queen bs appeared as judges on “American Idol” in 2013. Their feud has the media going crazy.

“She said this about her, and she compared her to Satan.”

Please, gag me with a spoon. The drama.

But yet, both female artists seem to keep it quite classy with their music and fame. They may say terrible things about each other, but they keep it out of their music. Both ladies have released their first single of 2014. Is it just me, or does it feel like World War III is about to begin?

Minaj’s single, “Lookin Ass N\*\*\*\*a” is actually a fresh, mature look for her. In the music video, she looks clean-cut and mature compared to her videos in the past. No more cotton candy album covers and frou-frou stuff. Minaj looks like the 31-year-old woman that she is, finally.

The video includes her shooting huge machine guns and striking provocative poses on chairs while her reflection is apparent in a male’s eye. I really think this video is a step up for Minaj.

The song? Ahhh, it’s ok. It’s something we would totally expect from her. She’s rapping hard, as usual, but her lyrics re-

ally don’t mean much. Typical Minaj.

There’s nothing for us to connect to as fans, unless you find lyrics about men staring at girls’ asses intriguing. Then this might be the song of the year for you.

Carey, on the other hand, has mushy lyrics, but at least they have some significance behind them. The music video shows Carey sitting on stones and swimming through the water topless. She has a very mermaid-ish look about her as she sings her gentle lyrics. One surprising thing about this video: Trey Songz. Say what?

Yeah, I don’t exactly understand either. Pictures flash back and forth between nude Carey and Songz as if they are long-lost lovers. At first it was a little confusing. I got my hopes up thinking that Songz was going to start singing and make the song 10 times better, but no such luck.

The song is actually boring, like paint drying kind of stuff. I’m all for romance, but this song goes above and beyond the definition of “lovey-dovey.”

Carey sings, “I can’t seem to live without your love/Suffocating here by myself dying for your touch.”

Really? I don’t know much about love, but I don’t think it has anything to do with suffocation.

So whose song is better you ask? That’s a difficult question for anyone. Honestly, both artists have disappointed me with their first singles of 2014. I see Carey’s song touching a larger fan base because of her lyrics, but I don’t see either one of these songs being very big. They just seem like nothing new from either singer.

So the let fight begin. Maybe one of these women will finally step up to the plate and produce a song that will blow the other one out of the water...or not.

# WHAT’S HOT

Charlie is engaged

Sheen popped the question to his girlfriend, Brett Rossi. The couple has been together since November. Let’s see if his fourth marriage can play out in his favor.

King and Queen

Maryville High School announced the courtwarring king and queen. Congratulation to seniors Isaac Bledsoe and McKenzie Wallace, who were crowned last week at the boys’ varsity basketball game Thursday.

BAFTA

The British Academy of Film and Television Awards were held last Sunday evening. Many popular films, including “American Hustle,” “Frozen,” and “The Great Gatsby,” won awards this year.

# WHAT’S NOT

Ravenswood is a no-go

The ABC Family spinoff show of addicting “Pretty Little Liars” has been cancelled. “Ravenswood” will not be returning for a second season on the network. To all the PLL fans, I’m sorry. We will just have to wait.

Midterms

They’re the next worst thing, next to a final. And they are coming for you. It’s never too early to start studying and praying for a decent grade. Let’s focus, Bearcats.

Paula Deen’s comeback

After Deen’s tragedy last year, she is finally making a comeback. She has a planned partnership with Najafi Cos. Do we really think Deen can make a return to TV?

# Billboard Hot 100 Songs

1. Dark Horse-Katy Perry ft. Juicy J
2. Happy-Pharrell Williams
3. Talk Dirty-Jason Derulo ft. 2 Chainz
4. Say Something-A Great Big World ft. Christina Aguilera
5. Let Her Go-Passenger
6. Timber-Pitbull ft. Ke\$ha
7. Counting Stars-OneRepublic
8. Drunk in Love-Beyonce ft. Jay-Z
9. Team-Lorde
10. Pompeii-Bastille

# Billboard Top 200

1. Now 49-Various Artists
2. Frozen-Soundtrack
3. Unorthodox Jukebox-Bruno Mars
4. Love, Marriage and Divorce-Toni Braxton & Babyface
5. After the Disco-Broken Bells
6. Salute-Lil Mix
7. Beyonce-Beyonce
8. Pure Heroine-Lorde
9. 2014 Grammy Nominees-Various Artists
10. PRISM-Katy Perry Park

# THE STROLLER: Your Man claims that bar junkies are not clearly heard

Before we hop into this week’s rhetoric, Binturongs, I would like the record to show that I am more tired of talking about this than you are of hearing about it.

With that said, if you don’t know about the recent news regarding City Council and its ordinances, then you must live under a rock, and should therefore be stoned with the rock you call home.

These two ordinances, the Nuisance Party and the Open Alcohol Container ordinances, are complete crap in my mind. Your Man attended the most recent council meeting when the “The Man” (and one woman, let’s not be sexist) decided to table the aforementioned ordinances.

Just so you know, I had every intent to speak out against our illustrious leaders, but then Your Man’s anonymity would be long gone.

Since I have keen observation and satirical skills, I’ve noticed how awful the council has acted toward the college students and bar attendees

recently.

I stand with you, Binturongs, right alongside the man with the magnificent mustache, Jazz. For those of you who weren’t at the council meeting, first of all, shame on you, and second, be sure to thank our presi – he stood against the oppressors for you.

We’re being unfairly persecuted y’all. These ordinances are the product of an idiotic regime. Why should the city of Maryville have these new laws? Well, because the council already made the horrid decision to prohibit minors from bars—effective July 1.

This place is going downhill fast, unless they are stopped or convinced otherwise. Every student, faculty member and Maryville citizen I’ve spoken with agrees, there’s no place within the fabric of Maryville society for these changes.

Don’t worry, I wore my Jasinski disguise as to not give myself away.

We all know what these ordinances are about.

They’re worried once the bar-age ordinance goes into effect that chaos will ensue. Well, of course. It’s elementary my dear witling, you should have never raised the bar-entry age.

You’re ruining the bars. We all love the bars. The bars are safe, fun and even have sober employees who watch over those troublemaking minors everyone’s so worried about.

So here are my final two points this week, City Council members who are against Northwest students having a great time (not you Mrs. Councilwoman, you’re awesome), take the time in the next several weeks to listen to the students and learn how to use some common sense – I don’t enjoy writing about your blunders all the time.

Take heed, council, because an election is coming and if you won’t listen, we’ll find those who will.

\*Mic drop\* I’M OUT.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.



HOME

CONTINUED FROM A12

Mathews, Nelson and four years of experience from senior guard Meridee Scott gives the Bearcats plenty of veteran leadership in the portion of the season where late-season moxie is crucial.

While must-win games in February are all Mathews and Nelson have seen, Scott sat alongside in the same boat for the last three seasons. However, the fourth-year Maryville native also enjoyed the fruits of the 2010-2011 campaign when the Bearcats bounded their way to a Final Four appearance.

“Being on that team was kind of a once-in-a-lifetime kind of thing,” Scott said. “I think that being able to see how much hard work and what kind of talent and skill you have to have to be at that level kind of gives you an advantage to know how hard that you’re gonna have to work to get back to that.”

The wealth of experience serves as a comfort to a team that’s sat on pins and needles for a majority of the year.

Junior Denise McEnaney joins Mathews and Nelson as a

third-year player at Northwest, while senior Monique Stevens and junior Ariel Easton are transfers in their second and first years wearing Bearcat green, respectively, as well as junior Alexandria Blaurock, another first-year transfer.

“That experience gives us a knowledge of what we need to do,” Mathews said. “Now is not the time to back down - we need to play our best basketball at this point in the season.”

Just three weeks ago, the Bearcats were pacing desperately, much like Smith just before a frustrated timeout, perched on the outside looking in at the rest of the MIAA in 13th place.

But a four-game winning streak from Jan. 30 to Feb. 8 put Northwest back in the portrait, a stretch that ended Feb. 12 with a wrenching overtime loss to Missouri Southern.

“We played well, but we just kind of beat ourselves,” Nelson said. “We had way too many offensive rebounds given up, and we turned the ball over way too many times. Going into overtime I just think that we could have played better, and I think that we beat ourselves, not necessarily that (Southern) was the better team.”

The Bearcats face a rematch opportunity Feb. 22 with a dangerous Missouri Western team, a team that they edged at home, a

team that now begrudgingly sits where Northwest has for the last trio of seasons - trapped on the bubble.

“I know that they’re going to be fired up for us at their place,” Smith said. “... It’s a big game for both teams, there’s no doubt about that. We’re both fighting for spots still.”

“I’m sure it’ll come down to the wire like it did last time.”

Sometimes, programs stuck in a drought of mediocrity try to scratch the surface and sneak into the postseason. But this year’s Northwest women have their sights set a little higher - they want to crash right through the ceiling.

Mathews said it’s not about “surviving” - it’s time to compete for much-needed wins rather than playing ‘not to lose,’ as the saying goes.

For Scott, however, it’s a little bigger than that. She wants one final playoff game in Maryville before her career is up.

“That’s one of our team’s main goals is to have the (first-round) game here at Northwest,” Scott said. “Having a home crowd and having all your fans here, I think that’s a big factor in if we win or lose that game.”

“That would be awesome. That would be a dream come true.”

Maryville’s offense coming to life late in MEC play



Sophomore forward Chip Dunlap gets two defenders in the air with a pump fake in the Spoofhounds’ 53-42 win over Cameron Feb. 17 at home. Maryville is awaiting its district matchup following its game against Savannah Feb. 21.

RECOVERING

CONTINUED FROM A12

selves with (worrying about a late-season loss),” McCollum said. “I think the important part is to play well, practice well and understand that every practice is a new day. Regardless if you’ve had a good one the day before, it doesn’t mean you get extra bonus points the next practice, or if you beat someone good, you don’t get a five-point lead the next game.

“Hopefully, we get back to imposing our will on our opponents and doing what we do. This is a big stretch run, and obviously taking it one game at a time is a cliché, but that’s what we are still trying to do.”

The Bearcats’ 10-game winning streak came to a close at the hands of Missouri Southern Feb. 12, and senior guard DeShaun Cooper thinks it will refocus his team as they head down the stretch.

“I felt like that game woke us up quick, fast and in a hurry,” Cooper said. “I felt like we went into that game lackadaisical, expecting the unexpected. They came out and went right at our throats, and we died in the game. They had control of the full 40 minutes. We had to come back the next day and go at each other. We had to realize we weren’t as good as we thought.”

OLYMPICS

CONTINUED FROM A12

5. As of Tuesday, America is tied for the most medals with Germany at 20 apiece. In a bunch of events that are not focused on by the public nor up-and-coming athletes, America is sitting at the top. The best basketball, football and baseball in the world is played in the United States throughout the year, so if someone wants to watch the best athletes in the world, you can turn your TV to ESPN any time of the year.

Northwest knocked off the Grif-fons in a 92-64 blowout at home Feb. 5, but McCollum does not expect to come up against the same team that was run out of the gym in the previous matchup.

“First of all, they were a lot better than what they were when they played here,” McCollum said. “I think they were caught up in the moment and had one of those games—just a bad game. I don’t foresee that happening there. In a rivalry game, you might as well toss the records out the window, and we truly believe it’s going to be a tough game. I think they are, shoot, 20 points better when they are at home.

“We are expecting their best shot, and I’m sure they’ll give it to us after last game. They were a little shell-shocked and are going to be chomping at the bit, ready for us.”

Cooper is confident that if they go out and do the things they are capable of doing, the Bearcats will leave St. Joseph with another notch in the “win” column.

“I usually have good games against Mo. West because those are the games you have to get up and ready for,” Cooper said. “I’m going to go out there and play my game. My team is going to come out and play. The big fella right here (Starzl) is going to come ready to play, and we shouldn’t have any problems.”

The Summer Olympics have sports the masses can relate to because they know the difficulty of running a mile or playing basketball. It brings a sense of relatability to the games.

Despite what I think, the Olympics will happen. Athletes will cry, chew on their medals and have memories that last forever. I would never take that away from them, but I will not be tuning in to watch them do so.

If they included normal winter functions, such as falling down on the ice or having to jump your car, then not only would I be more interested, but I would also be a gold medalist.

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NW MEN’S BASKETBALL

MIAA STANDINGS	Overall	MIAA
NORTHWEST.....	18-6	13-2
Central Mo.....	21-4	13-3
Fort Hays.....	20-4	11-4
Mo. Southern.....	17-5	11-4
Central Okla.....	16-7	10-6
Nebraska Kearney.....	12-10	8-7
Washburn.....	15-8	8-8
Emporia St.....	15-11	8-8
Northeastern St.....	12-10	7-8
Southwest Baptist.....	13-11	6-9
Lindenwood.....	10-16	5-11
Mo. Western.....	9-14	4-11
Pitt. St.....	7-15	3-12
Lincoln.....	3-21	1-15

**Feb. 22:**  
Pitt. State at Mo. Southern  
Northeastern St. at Central Okla.  
NORTHWEST at Mo. Western  
Central Mo. at Southwest Baptist  
Washburn at Emporia St.

MHS BOYS’ BASKETBALL

MEC STANDINGS	Overall	MEC
Lafayette.....	18-4	6-0
Chillicothe.....	11-8	3-1
Savannah.....	10-8	4-2
Smithville.....	10-10	2-2
Bishop LeBlond.....	11-9	1-2
MARYVILLE.....	5-15	2-5
Benton.....	3-17	2-5
Cameron.....	5-18	1-4

**Feb. 21:**  
Lafayette at Smithville  
Chillicothe at Cameron  
MARYVILLE at Savannah  
Benton at Bishop LeBlond

NW WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

MIAA STANDINGS	Overall	MIAA
Emporia St.....	23-2	14-2
Central Mo.....	20-3	14-2
Pitt. St.....	19-6	12-3
Mo. Southern.....	16-6	10-5
Washburn.....	15-8	10-6
Fort Hays.....	16-6	9-6
Northeastern St.....	10-12	7-8
Lindenwood.....	12-11	7-9
NORTHWEST.....	9-13	6-9
Southwest Baptist.....	10-12	5-10
Central Okla.....	10-13	5-11
Mo. Western.....	9-13	4-11
Nebraska Kearney.....	8-14	4-11
Lincoln.....	4-19	1-15

**Feb. 22:**  
Pitt. State at Mo. Southern  
Northeastern St. at Central Okla.  
NORTHWEST at Mo. Western  
Central Mo. at Southwest Baptist  
Washburn at Emporia St.

MHS GIRLS’ BASKETBALL

MEC STANDINGS	Overall	MEC
Smithville.....	20-5	5-1
Cameron.....	19-7	5-1
Benton.....	13-8	3-2
Lafayette.....	13-6	2-2
Bishop LeBlond.....	15-6	2-3
Chillicothe.....	4-10	1-2
Savannah.....	10-5	1-2
MARYVILLE.....	6-19	0-6

**Feb. 20:**  
Smithville at Lafayette  
Bishop LeBlond at Benton  
Chillicothe at Cameron  
Savannah at MARYVILLE

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